

CHAPTERS 1 to 19  
Reserved

CHAPTER 20  
INNOVATION ZONES

**417—20.1(76GA,ch1219) Definitions.**

*“Governance structure”* means a collaborative group that includes entities from both the public and private sector that uses a cross-system approach to make decisions regarding service delivery and funding to ensure the desired results, and is held accountable to the state and the community for implementing the plan and achieving those results.

*“Innovation zone”* means a designation given by the innovation zone board to a local jurisdiction, which meets the requirements of 417—Chapter 20, for the purpose of improving results for children and families.

*“Jurisdiction” or “local jurisdiction”* means one or more cities, counties or school districts or a combination of any of these entities.

**417—20.2(76GA,ch1219) Innovation zone board.** The establishment of the innovation zone board shall enable a new partnership between the state agencies and the local jurisdictions to improve results for children and families.

**20.2(1) Innovation zone board meetings.** The innovation zone board shall meet at least four times a year. Dates shall be determined by the board. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson or upon written request by the majority of the board members. Any person wishing to make a presentation at an innovation zone board meeting shall submit a request to the coordinator of the innovation zone board. The request shall be considered by the chairperson in setting the next meeting agenda.

**20.2(2) Innovation zone board minutes.** Copies of the minutes shall be kept on file in the Department of Management, State Capitol Building, Room 12, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034.

**20.2(3) Reports.** The board shall submit reports to the council on human investment regarding its actions on a regular basis.

**20.2(4) Procedure.** In cases not covered by these rules, Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern.

**417—20.3(76GA,ch1219) Request for application.** The innovation zone board will announce through public notice the opening of an application period. Applicants shall submit a request containing the following information:

1. Definition of the geographic parameters of the local jurisdiction seeking designation as an innovation zone.
2. Description of governance structure, including the identity of the entity who is legally able to accept funds.
3. Statement of the improved results for children and families to be achieved, including an illustration of the alignment of results with at least one of the council on human investment benchmarks.
4. Description of cross-system, community-based strategies, including a description of the methodology used to obtain initial and ongoing input from community members and the method used to measure results.
5. Evidence of previous success of community collaboration.
6. Evidence of commitment of partnership members and demonstration of the collaborative approach to develop and implement the innovation zone plan.
7. Identification of existing assets/funding streams to be used in the innovation zone plan as well as a commitment of any new money generated from local resources.

- 8. Description of waiver, law or rule change requested, if any.
- 9. Agreement, if selected as an innovation zone, to assist in the replication of its plan in other parts of the state.

**417—20.4(76GA,ch1219) Selection of jurisdictions.** The following criteria shall be utilized in the selection of the jurisdictions to be designated as innovation zones. A weighted scoring will be used in the selection process for the designation of the innovation zones. The maximum amount of points possible is 100. Determination of point awards will be based on the following elements contained in the request for application:

1.	Description of the jurisdiction’s governance structure	10 points
2.	Statement of the results to be achieved for children and families	25 points
3.	Proposed strategies with cross-system focus to improve results for children and families	25 points
4.	Previous success of community collaboration	20 points
5.	Commitment of partnership members and collaborative approach to develop and implement the innovation zones plan	15 points
6.	Indication of sources and amount of revenue to fund plan, including the commitment of local resources	5 points

The board will appoint a review team to score the applications. Applications must receive a score of 70 points or more to be considered eligible. There will be a team of ten members to review and initially score the applications. Once scored, the top ten scoring applications will be selected for an interview. Members of the review team will interview the top ten scoring applicants to clarify information in the application and will reevaluate the scores and adjust them up or down based on the interview. Once the scores are finalized, the review team will present this information to the board. The innovation zone board will designate the innovation zones based upon the highest scoring applications.

**417—20.5(76GA,ch1219) Final agency action.** The decision of the innovation zone board is considered final agency action.

**417—20.6(76GA,ch1219) Innovation zone plan.** The applying jurisdiction, if selected as an innovation zone, will agree to develop and negotiate an innovation zone plan. The plan shall identify the specific duties of the state innovation zone board and the local governance authority. This plan will form the contents of an agreement which will be signed by the innovation zone board and the local entity.

**417—20.7(76GA,ch1219) Termination of the designation as an innovation zone.** If an agreement cannot be reached by the innovation zone board and the local entity, the designation shall be rescinded by innovation zone board action. The innovation zone board has final agency action.

These rules are intended to implement 1996 Iowa Acts, chapter 1219, section 61.  
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